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Letter dated 10 July 2007 from the Permanent Representative of Serbia to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

I have the honour to forward herewith the comments of the Republic of Serbia on the report of the Secretary-General on the United Nations Interim Administration Mission in Kosovo (S/2007/395) (see annex I) and the chronology of the atrocities committed against Serbs in Kosovo and Metohija from March 2005 to July 2007 (see annex II).

I would be grateful if you would have the present letter and its annexes circulated as a document of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) Pavle **Jevremovic**

07-42410 (E) 240707

Annex I to the letter dated 10 July 2007 from the Permanent Representative of Serbia to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

Report of the Secretary-General on the United Nations Interim Administration Mission in Kosovo (S/2007/395): comments of the Republic of Serbia

The Report of the Special Representative of the Secretary-General of the United Nations for Kosovo covering the period from 19 February to 1 June 2007 appears to be made as a promotion exercise for the Mission's own position: it accentuates positive achievements and ignores the Mission's shortcomings and contentious issues that make the situation in the field unbearable for the Serbs and other non-Albanians. The Report, therefore, like the two previous ones, is dismissive of the isolation, economic discrimination and the fear of violence and maltreatment that, as part of low-intensity terror, are permanently resorted to by the majority Albanian population in an effort to drive the Serbs out of the Province and take over the Serbian territory.

The goal of establishing a multiethnic society in Kosovo and Metohija is far from being achieved and the proclaimed equality of ethnic communities is non-existent. The majority, Albanian, community enjoys full freedom, while non-Albanian communities are being increasingly ghettoized. A sad example, as well as a telling piece of evidence of the situation, is the number of Serbs in Priština which once stood at 40,000 and now stands at 87. This situation is misrepresented as evidence of the existence of differences and is used as an argument that a multiethnic society is being established in Kosovo and Metohija.

There are no returns. For seven years now, non-Albanians have not been coming back, despite a large number of IDPs (200,000) and internal IDPs (18,000). The main obstacles are:

1. Lack of personal safety and property security;
2. Lack of freedom of movement;
3. Lengthy administrative procedures which include obtaining agreement from local Albanian communities, balance programmes etc.;
4. Lack of financial resources and years-long wait for funds for return projects already approved;
5. Ethnic employment discrimination in communities in which jobs are available and lack of security in tending fields and/or harvesting forests;
6. Unavailability of public service jobs;
7. Failure to decentralize government;
8. Lack of trust in the Provisional Institutions of Self-Government (PISGs); and
9. Ineffective UNMIK administration.

If indeed progress has been achieved in the freedom of movement and respect for human rights, why are walls being built around churches and monasteries and sites of Serbian cultural heritage? Besides, the sites are being given a new and

erroneous name "Kosovo cultural heritage" in which way they are being denied Serbian origin and appurtenance to the Serbian people.

It is stated in the Report that the non-Albanian population does not participate in PISGs. Perhaps it only goes to prove that, after all, non-Albanians were in fact assigned a decorative role in the once benevolent effort to find a just solution for the question of Kosovo and Metohija.

It is contended in the Report that "lack of [...] access to international loans" continues to hamper the Kosovo and Metohija economy. This contention is inaccurate since international financial institutions are present in Kosovo and Metohija. Besides, the offer of Serbia to open a separate account in the Central Bank of Serbia to facilitate the transactions between the international financial institutions and the Provincial Government, although never accepted, is still on the table.

The Report goes on to say that progress has been achieved in privatization. No mention is made, however, that the forcible privatization has damaged the interests of the State of Serbia, Serbian companies and the citizens of Serbia other than ethnic Albanians and that indeed their property rights have been annulled by the privatization. As many as 20,000 private property complaints have been filed, while numerous forged documents alleging claims to the property of Serbs and other non-Albanians circulate in Kosovo and Metohija. It is also stated in the Report that various laws have been drafted or adopted. It may be so, but the laws are enacted by the will of one ethnic group alone motivated by the drive to secede from the State of Serbia.

The Report does say that UNSC resolution 1244 has not been implemented in its basic parts. It does not say, however, that the UNMIK-FRY Common Document of November 2001 is not being implemented and that the work of working groups on kidnapped and missing persons, on returns, energy, transport and telecommunications has been perfunctory and brought no results. Some results, though, have been achieved by the technical subgroup for returns, but they have not been implemented and are not mentioned in the Report.

Because of its bias and partiality, the Report makes no contribution to the establishment of a multiethnic society, respect for human rights, implementation of United Nations documents and decisions or to reconciliation and normalization of the situation in Kosovo and Metohija. It also does not help create a proper atmosphere for the resumption of negotiations and a genuine quest for a joint and just solution to the status of Kosovo and Metohija which is possible to attain only through direct dialogue between Belgrade and Priština.

Contrary to the routine, selective and bureaucratic Report, we have had genuine accounts of the situation in the field by many eminent officials who have served in high positions in the Province. One account was recently presented by General Fabio Minni of Italy and was followed by longest-serving British Labour Minister Michael Meacher (1997-2003) and Australian diplomat, politician and university professor Gregory Clark. In its issue of 2 July 2007, *The Japan Times* carried Professor Clark's article *Serbia Owed Justice in Kosovo* in which he criticized the current policy of international institutions in Kosovo and Metohija in a very documented way.

Many sources reveal that the situation in Kosovo and Metohija, in particular the situation within the Albanian ethnic community, is plagued by a profound

structural crisis. The situation is characterized by an economy dependent on international donations and workers' remittances from abroad, a 60 per cent unemployment rate, endemic disrespect for law, social repression and militarization, a culture of fear, intolerance, aggression, inter-ethnic hatred, ghettoization of minority groups and systematic violence against them and a pervading lack of perspective among the young generation, in particular.

The situation calls for a complex approach. Only by addressing the crisis in a balanced and pro-active way can an effective, long-term and sustainable solution be achieved. However, the activities that purport to aim at finding a just solution for the Kosovo and Metohija crisis tend to unfurl under the banner of the simplistic fundamentalist programme of *Independent Kosovo or War*. Oftentimes, the staunchest advocates of this irresponsible and morally untenable programme of blackmail are local, as well as regional and global actors and stakeholders.

Annex II to the letter dated 10 July 2007 from the Permanent Representative of Serbia to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

Chronology of the atrocities committed against Serbs in Kosovo and Metohija from March 2005 to July 2007

28 March 2005: Nedeljko, 81, and Nevenka, 68, Vučić were attacked and beaten by unknown persons in the village of Crkolez, Municipality of Istok, in front of their home at 7.00 a.m. They sustained heavy bodily harm.

10 May 2005: Milenko Vulić, 62, was beaten in front of his home in the village of Devet Jugovića, near Obilić.

The same day, unknown persons fired shots at passenger cars ferrying 3 Serbian youths in the village of Donja Brnjica. The house of Danko Marinković was dynamited in the village of Klokot.

17 August 2005: Unknown persons beat Miodrag Mitić, 70, from the village of Livađe near Lipljan as he tended his herd near the Priština-Skopje motorway.

27 August 2005: Ivan Dejanović from Prilužje and Aleksandar Stanković from Konjuh, Municipality of Lipljan, born at Suvi Do, were killed in the village of Brnjica on the Priština-Štrpce road at midnight. Nikola Dukić and Aleksandar Janićijević, travelling with Dejanović and Stanković to Štrpce in the same vehicle, were wounded.

9 September 2005: Saša Durlević, member of the KPC, hit with 2 bullets near Štrpce about midnight. Durlević and 2 other Serbian members of the KPC were ambushed in their vehicle.

28 September 2005: Dejan Janković, KPC regional commander, was shot and wounded in an official vehicle by unknown persons on the Priština-Štrpce road at 5.45 p.m.

4 November 2005: Attempt to kidnap Milena Krstić, 15, from Ugljare. 2 attackers, most probably Albanians, carried out the attempt in front of her home at about 7.30 p.m. Milena was on her way to a local store when she was stopped by 2 unknown men in a white motor vehicle with KS (Kosovo) licence plates. One of the men tried to pull her into the vehicle, but the girl managed to run away.

11 November 2005: Ilija Petronijević was shot at in his courtyard at Suvi Do, near northern Kosovska Mitrovica, at about 1.20 a.m. 10 rounds were fired but Petronijević was not injured.

30 November 2005: Dragan Jovanović, 18, was wounded at Sušica near Gračanica at 2.00 p.m. on his way to school library. Unknown persons shot and wounded Dragan in the left arm from a moving vehicle.

26 December 2005: Branislav Antović, 35, and Dejan Maksimović, 24, were seriously wounded in 2 separate attacks in northern Kosovska Mitrovica. Antović, worker of Water Supply company, was shot in the town centre at about 2.00 a.m. on his way home from work. Maksimović was wounded somewhat later in his bed as attackers jumped onto his balcony and opened fire. Maksimović was wounded in the arm.

23 January 2006: A bomb was thrown into the courtyard of the family house of Vice-Chairman of the Coordination Centre for Kosovo and Metohija of the Republic of Serbia Milorad Todorović in the village of Cernica near Gnjilane. Only Todorović's father was inside the house at the time of the attack.

6 February 2006: Nebojša Kragović and Mirko Jeftić were attacked and beaten with sticks by a group of Albanians at Suvi Do near Kosovska Mitrovica at about 8.00 p.m.

14 February 2006: Slobodanka Kompirović, 63, was strangled in her apartment in northern Kosovska Mitrovica at about 9.30 p.m.

5 March 2006: Unknown persons fired several shots at a vehicle ferrying 3 Serbs on the Staro Gradsko-Lipljan road at about 7.30 p.m. but no injuries were reported. A priest and his wife and daughter were in the vehicle; they took refuge in the local police station after the attack.

15 March 2006: 3 Albanian youths desecrated the Serbian church and the adjacent cemetery in the village of Varoš, Municipality of Uroševac. They smashed the church windows and damaged several tombstones in the evening hours. The KPC identified the youths, apprehended and interrogated them, whereafter they were released.

17 March 2006: Garbage was dumped at the entrance into the Serbian Orthodox cemetery and on the road leading to the returnee village of Belo Polje near Peć.

28 March 2006: Milisav Ilinčić, 19, was attacked while with his date and wounded with a knife by 3 Albanians on the main bridge over the Ibar in full view of the KPC.

4 April 2006: Automatic fire was opened at the house of Čedomir Ivković by unknown persons in the village of Straža near Gnjilane at about 2.30 a.m. No injuries were reported, but the house was damaged.

11 April 2006: Unknown persons stole a tractor from Ognjen Kovačević from the village of Banje, Municipality of Srbica, as Kovačević and his family were asleep inside the house. At about 3.00 a.m. they cut the chain the tractor had been fastened with and drove it towards Drenica and other Albanian villages.

Albanians have stolen 20 cows and 5 tractors from the Serbs in the last 5 years at Banje and none of them has been found by UNMIK and the KPC yet.

15 April 2006: Incendiary devices were thrown at the house of the Bojić family at Bošnjačka mahala at about midnight. No injuries were reported.

The same day, unknown persons broke into the Church of St. Petka in the village of Gojbulja, Municipality of Vučitrn, and damaged its interior. On their way back from cemetery, a group of young villagers set about to tidy up the church yard and saw that the church door was broken and the chandelier and the icon of St. Mary and the photo of Bishop Artemije were smashed.

17 April 2006: Garbage was dumped again at the entrance into the Serbian Orthodox cemetery and on the road leading to Belo Polje.

26 April 2006: At about 1.30 a.m. a bomb was thrown from a moving vehicle at the building at Zubin Potok housing municipal, UNMIK and police courts. The

windows of the UNMIK court and the surrounding buildings were broken in the explosion, but no injuries were reported.

1 May 2006: In the early morning hours a number of unknown persons attempted to steal cattle from Serbs in the returnee village of Osojane. The attempt failed and the thieves fled as Serbs rallied to protect their property and even fired from a licensed hunting rifle.

The same day unknown persons broke the window on a Serbian store in the village Prilužje, Municipality of Vučitrn.

2 May 2006: In the ethnically mixed village of Podgorce, 2 Serbian women reported the theft of building material prepared for the renovation of their houses.

3 May 2006: Unknown persons broke into the stable of a Serb in the village of Paralovo near Gnjilane and stole 2 cows.

The same day the house of a Serbian woman was broken into and ransacked.

Unknown persons stole 2 cows and a tractor from a Serbian family in the village of Suvi Do. The theft was reported to the KPC, but despite clear evidence leading to the neighbouring Albanian village, the police took no action.

4 May 2006: 2 Serbs, whose identity has not been disclosed by the KPC, reported that their apartments in the predominantly Albanian part of Prizren had been broken into and squatted.

5 May 2006: A bomb was thrown at a *Water Supply* substation in northern Kosovska Mitrovica at about 10.00 p.m. The guards had been at the other end of the substation at the time of the attack and no injuries and damage were reported.

6 May 2006: At about 8.45 p.m. unknown persons planted an explosive device at the mineral water wells at the village of Klokot, Municipality of Vitina, located only 50 m from a KPC checkpoint. No damage was reported, but the concern of the local Serbian population was considerable.

At about 10.00 p.m. unknown persons opened fire at Srđan Stanković, archpriest of the Raška-Prizren Eparchy, his wife and 2 underage children. A *Volkswagen Golf* intercepted the archpriest's vehicle at Dudin krš near the Sokoloca Monastery exit on the Kosovska Mitrovica-Priština motorway and opened fire at it. No injuries were reported and the KPC found one bullet which had entered the vehicle and ended in the spare tyre. The UNMIK police reported, however, that two clips had been found at the place of the incident.

8 May 2006: Having poisoned guard dogs a night before, unknown persons stole a tractor from the returnee family of Milorad Dubić.

Also, a tractor was stolen from a returnee family in the village of Bič̆a, Municipality of Klina, and electricity meters were removed from 4 other returnee houses.

9 May 2006: At about 10.30 a.m. a UN bus ferrying about 30 Serbs, including women and children, from the village of Osojane to Kosovska Mitrovica was stoned near the Albanian village of Rudnik. No injuries were reported, but the bus was damaged considerably.

4 tractors and 7 cows were stolen from the returnee Serbs in the villages of Suvi Lukavac, Tučep and Osojane in the preceding week.

11 May 2006: Jablan Jeftić, 20, and Jovan Milošević, 19, petrol pump attendants, were gravely wounded in an armed attack on a petrol station near Zvečan carried out by a single attacker who wore a balaclava.

12 May 2006: The UN bus ferrying Serbian returnees on the Osojane-northern Kosovska Mitrovica line was stoned second time in the same week by a group of young Albanians at the Albanian village of Rudnik even though it had UNMIK and KPC escort. No injuries were reported, but the bus windows were broken.

The bells of the Church of St. Elijah at Podujevo were stolen and the Church, desecrated in the 17 March 2004 Albanian rioting, was broken into and desecrated again. The bells were subsequently found by members of the Czech KFOR.

16 May 2006: At about 3.00 a.m. the store of Tihomir Belošević at Leposavić was shelled from a Zolja mortar. No injuries were reported, but material damage was extensive. The windows at the Town Hall and other adjacent buildings were shattered.

19 May 2006: At about 10.00 p.m. Albanian Basri Hajdari shot at 2 Serbian security guards at the building site in Ulica oslobođenja bb at Bošnjačka mahala in northern Kosovska Mitrovica. There were no injuries, but the co-owner of Security, the company whose workers provided security that night tussled with an Albanian from a group that gathered in the wake of the incident.

25 May 2006: At about 10.00 a.m. a group of Albanians stoned a convoy of vehicle of Serbian attorneys escorted by UNMIK police in the village of Mala Kruša on the Đakovica-Prizren road. The incident was caused by the misbelief of the Albanians that Serbian IDPs coming back to inspect their property were in the convoy.

31 May 2006: Unknown persons planted an explosive device under a bridge connecting the Serbian returnee villages of Grabac and Biča in Metohija. The bridge was damaged in the explosion and the residents of the villages suspected that the intention of the perpetrators had been to destroy the bridge a day later when the regular convoy from the two villages was due to leave for Kosovska Mitrovica.

June 2006: Miljan Vesković, 23, from Žitkovac near Zvečan was killed on the Žitkovac-Zvečan road. The crime took place between 3 a.m. and 4 a.m. while Vesković was returning home in his *Volkswagen Golf*, registration plate No. KM 551-64. He pulled up for an obstacle made of tree branches whereupon he was fired at from an ambush. The killer(s) pulled Vesković's body from the vehicle, then drove in it to the village of Grabovac where it was found in the morning. Empty 7.65 mm calibre automatic rifle cartridges were found at the crime scene.

27 July 2006: Taking advantage of a 20-hour power outage in Dragaš and Gora, unknown persons planted an explosive device under the house of former Dragaš deputy police commander Rustem Aguši at the midnight between 27 and 28 July. Although Aguši and his family were asleep inside the house at the time of explosion, they were not injured. Material damage, though, was extensive.

25 September 2006: At about 10.00 p.m. Aleksandar Ćurić, 41, was attacked by several Albanians near the main bridge on the Ibar in the northern part of Kosovska Mitrovica. Ćurić sustained light injuries. The incident occurred after UNMIK reopened the bridge closed on 26 August in the wake of a bomb attack at the Dolce Vita cafe in which 9 persons had been injured, most of them Serbs.

6 October 2006: At about 9.30 a.m. a UN bus ferrying Serbs from Osojane in Metohija to Kosovska Mitrovica was stoned in the village of Rudnik. No injuries were reported.

4 November 2006: Albanians used cars and logs to obstruct the cemetery road in the village of Lešane near Suva Reka and prevent thus the Serbs bused by UNMIK to visit family graves on Orthodox Remembrance Day. When a bus pulled to a halt a firebrand Albanian hit it head-on with a tractor. He was apprehended, but the incident provoked other Albanians to attack the police and the Serbs on the bus.

8 November 2006: Dragan Antić from the village of Poneš, standing in line to collect social benefits payments, was beaten in front of the Reiffeisen bank in downtown Gnjilane.

9 November 2006: At about 8.00 a.m. unknown persons shot and wounded Milorad Šapić, 53, in the courtyard of his father-in-law's house in the village of Letnica near Vitina where he moved in after his own house at Vitina was burned on 17 March 2004. He was taken to hospital and was to be operated to remove a bullet from the head.

14 November 2006: Unknown persons demolished the Church of St. Petka in the village of Gojbulja, Municipality of Vučitrn.

20 November 2006: A group of Albanians stoned a school bus headed to Plemetina and ferrying Serbian and Roma children home after school in downtown Obilić.

2 December 2006: KPC special units stopped Nenad Kapetanović and Miodrag Ristić from Gušterica in the Albanian village of Firaja near Štrpce. They mistreated them and subsequently took them to Uroševac where they beat them. They were released 2 hours later.

8 December 2006: At about 5.30 p.m. a section of the Zvečan-Kosovo Polje railroad near the village of Mijalić, Municipality of Vučitrn, was mined The train with Serbs from Prilužje and Plemetina was stopped at Vučitrn.

10 December 2006: A bus on the Belgrade-Štrpce line was stoned in the village of Doganović 17 km from Štrpce at about 4.30 p.m. There were 30 Serbian passengers on the bus.

29 December 2006: Unknown persons fired shots at the house of Branko Mazić at Klina. No injuries were reported. At the time of the shooting ten minutes after midnight Serbian returnee Vlada Radosavljević and his wife Bosiljka, having been given hospitality, were asleep in the house. During the investigation of the incident, the police found 2 unexploded grenades on the second floor.

17 January 2007: Unknown persons removed part of the lead roof of the Church of St. Nicholas in Priština and broke the windows.

18 January 2007: Vuk Simić and underage M. M. were attacked and robbed near the kindergarten at Gračanica early in the morning. It is suspected that M.M. was raped.

2 February 2007: Milica Delević, 27, was knifed at Bošnjačka mahala in northern Kosovska Mitrovica. She was taken to hospital where she was placed in an intensive care unit after an operation.

10 February 2007: 2 churches were robbed in the Serbian villages of Skulanevo and Lepina, Municipality of Lipljan.

5 March 2007: Unknown persons broke into and desecrated the Serbian Orthodox Church of St. John the Precursor in Peć. The church had been renovated within the programme of renovation of damaged and desecrated Orthodox churches and monasteries in Kosovo and Metohija, sponsored by the Council of Europe.

2 April 2007: At the parking lot of the Municipal Court at Zubin Potok a Molotov cocktail was thrown at a Court vehicle with UNMIK licence plates at about 10.00 p.m. Significant damage to the vehicle was reported.

At about 6.00 p.m. unknown persons broke into the house of the Dejanovac family at Lipljan.

17 April 2007: KFOR special units deactivated a hand grenade planted by unknown persons in the vicinity of the Paskal cafe in the northern part of Kosovska Mitrovica frequented by Serbs.

18 April 2007: The UNMIK police and KPC raided the house of Milan Mirković, director of the Forest Management of the southernmost Serbian municipality of Štrpce, in search for weapon. They did find a hunting rifle for which Mr. Mirković had a proper licence though. During the search, the police treated the members of the family very brutally.

26 April 2007: Ranko Zdravković from Goraždevac was beaten by 2 unidentified A!banians in Peć.

7 May 2007: Residents of the Albanian part of the village of Suvi Do stoned a school bus ferrying Serbian students to Kosovska Mitrovica.

Unknown persons shot at Bojan Bogdanović, 21, in the village of Kokot near Vitina. Bogdanović was not injured.

12 June 2007: At about 5.00 p.m. Vukosava Ivanović, 74, was beaten by an 18-years-old Albanian in Priština.